EAPAN

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROFESSIONALS OF NAMIBIA

SEA – Past, Present, Future

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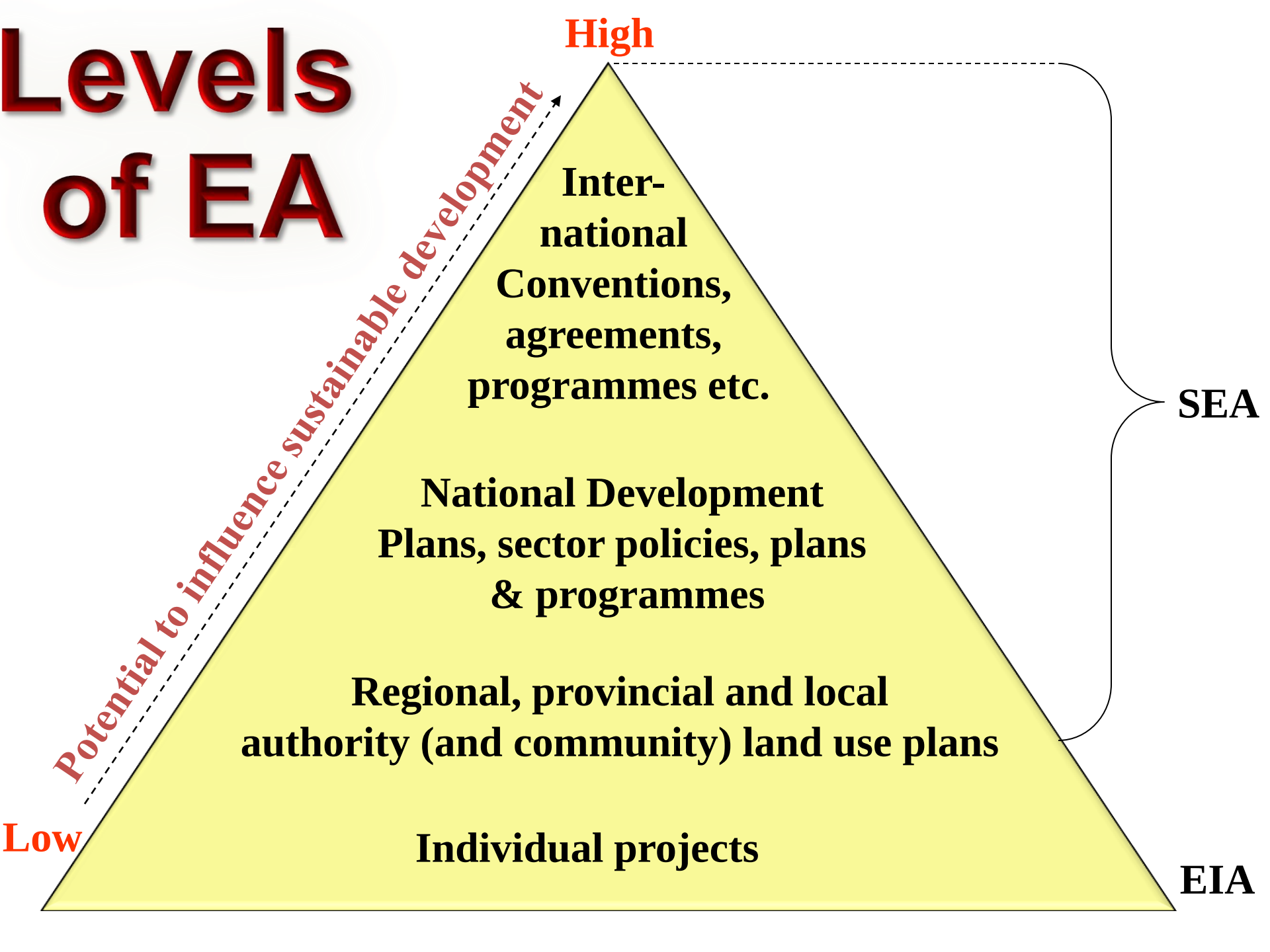
Levels of EA


High
Potential to influence sustainable development
Inter-
national
Conventions,
agreements,
programmes etc.
National Development
Plans, sector policies, plans
& programmes
Regional, provincial and local
authority (and community) land use plans
Individual projects
Low
SEA
EIA

Current SEA practice in Namibia

National Plans

- NDP 2 “SEA”
- NDP4 SEA

Land Use/spatial planning

- NACOMA coastal SEAs (x2)
- Windhoek Structure Plan SEA
- Regional LUP SEAs (x3)
- Benguela SEA Scoping
- Okavango River Basin SEA
- Baynes ancillary works SEA
- Others?

Programmes

- Biofuel
- MCC
- Uranium Rush
- CBEND
- Others?

SEA-like practice in Namibia

National Plans

- None?

Land Use/spatial planning

- “Owambo Roads Masterplan SEA”
- Structure plans (Walvis Bay, Swakopmund….)
- River TDAs (Orange and Okavango).
- Others?

Programmes

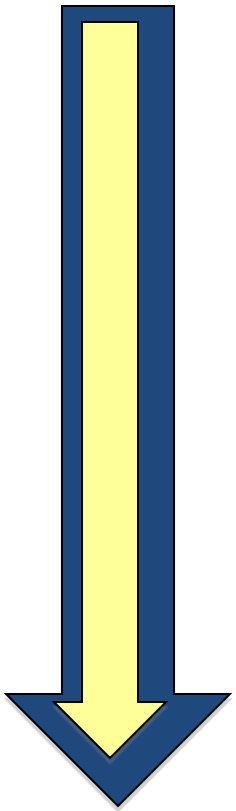
- None?

Impact of SEA?

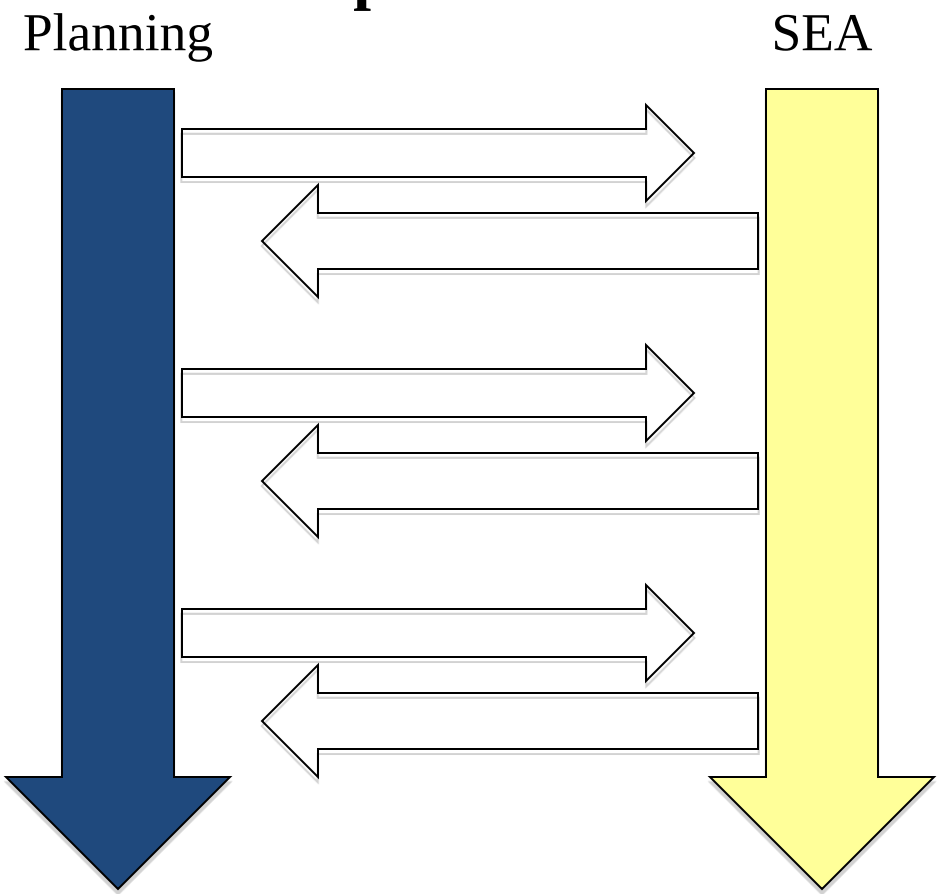
- Coastal SEAs have not been adhered to in many cases (usually ignored)
- Uranium Rush SEA has had some uptake – but below expectation
- Biofuel SEA recommended against Jatropha in Caprivi – upheld?
- Some important aspects (e.g. VCF) of MCC SEA were implemented.
- More on this during discussions……..

Which approach is best?

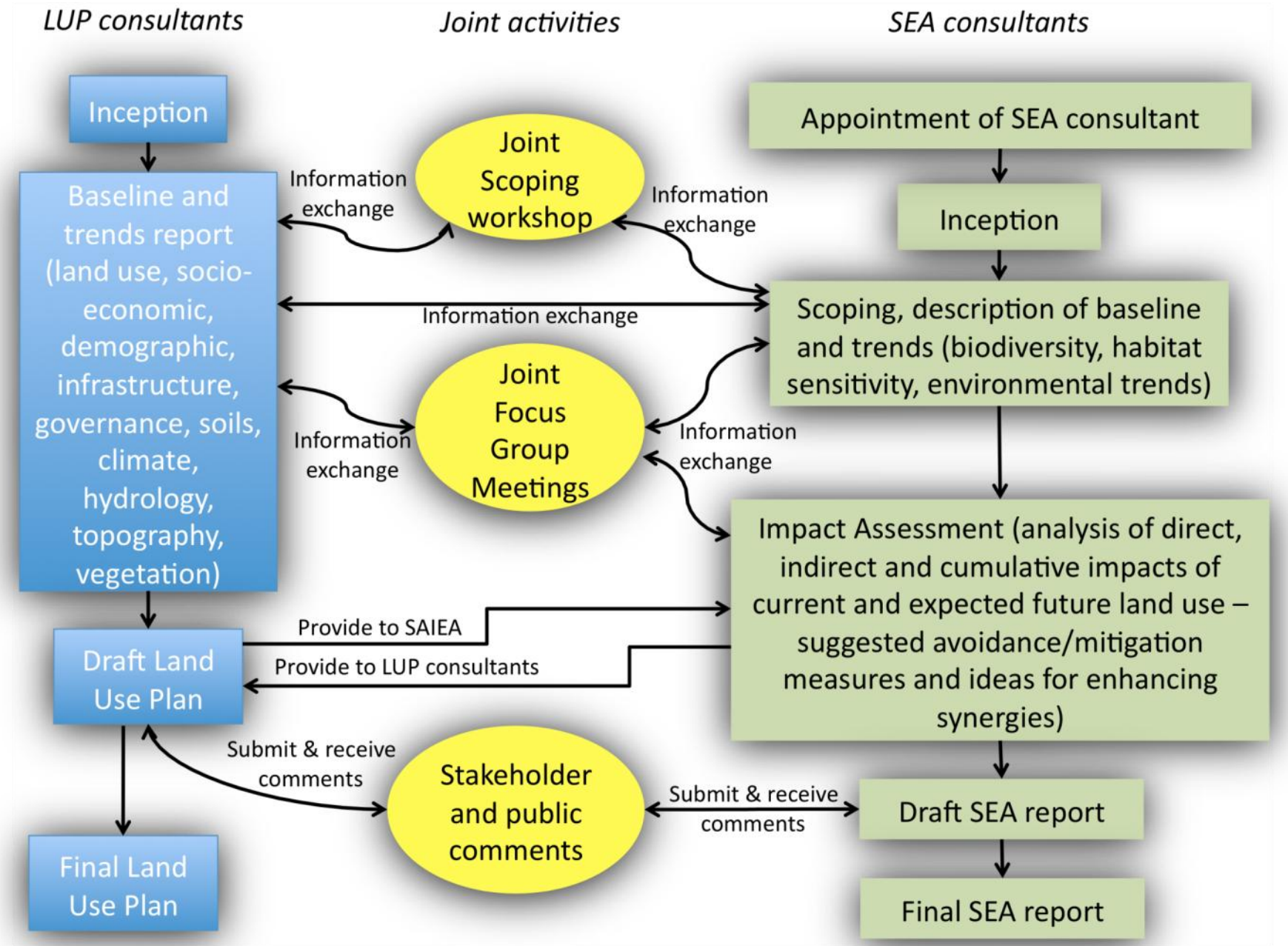
Merged process



Parallel but integrated process

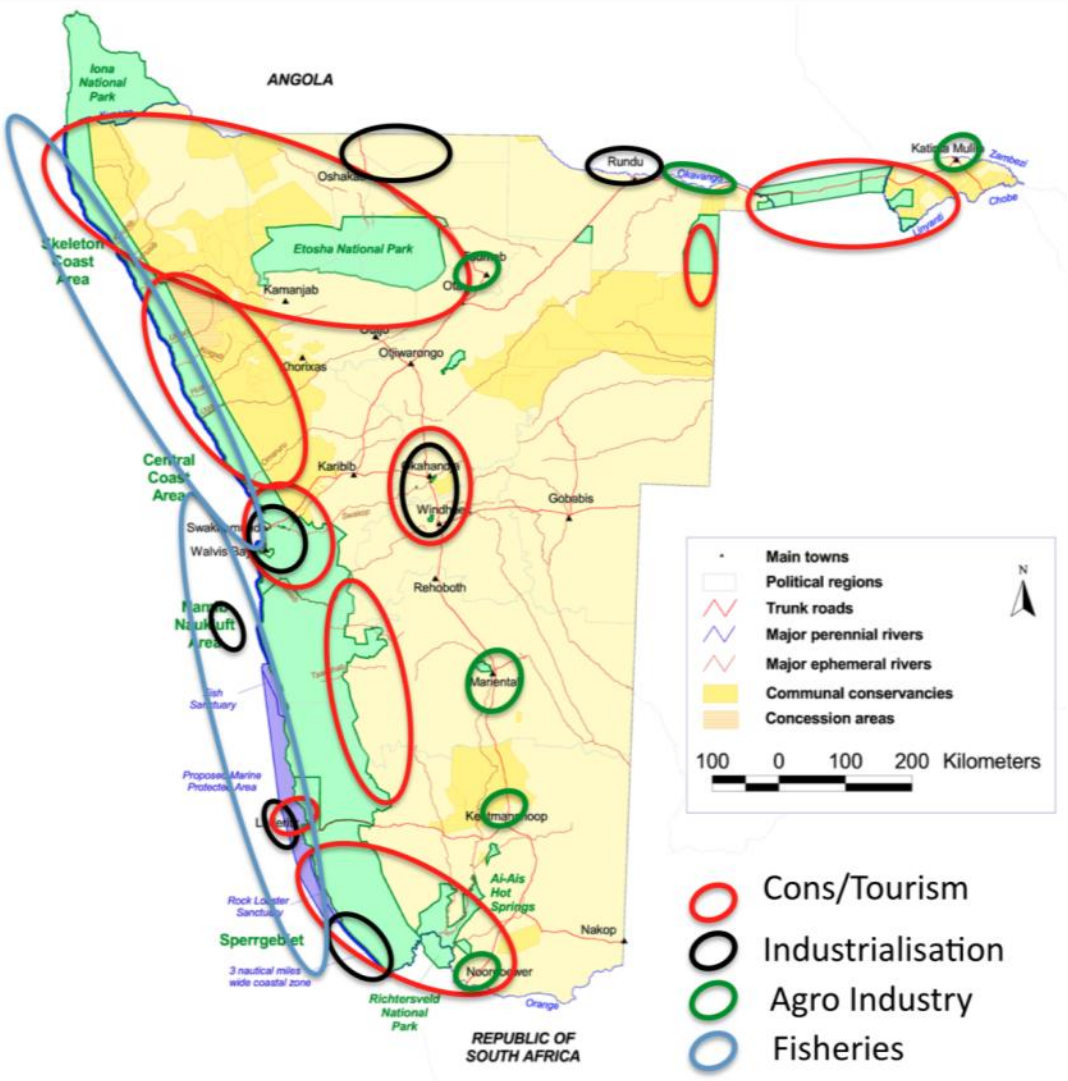


Example of parallel process



Difficulties – Policy SEA

- At national or even regional levels, difficult to see cumulative impacts, antagonisms and synergies
- These only become evident if one looks at “Hub Level”



Rationalising EA: The role of SEA

- Danger of log-jamming already inadequate institutions with too many EIAs – many for small projects that could be served by good (not thick!) EMPs
- Carefully constructed SEAs (e.g. NDP, V2030, Hubs) could provide strategic direction and reduce need for additional SEAs and multiple EIAs

AGRICULTURE SECTOR: KEY CUMULATIVE IMPACTS, ANTAGONISMS AND SYNERGY OPTIONS

Policy component	Key cumulative impacts	Key antagonisms	Key synergy options
Green schemes (GS)	If number of GS increases significantly, then: •**Over-abstraction of water** (cumulatively by GS and with other sectors). •**Habitat and biodiversity loss** (through land clearing and pesticide use). •**Eutrophication** (through excess use of artifical fertilisers). •**Involuntary resettlement** (through displacement of people to make way for GS).	• **GS versus subsistence agriculture** (land previously used for Traditional agriculture alienated for GSs). • **GS versus conservation and tourism** (Many GSs located adjacent to major rivers that are important for biodiversity and already utilised for tourism).	• **Conservation agriculture and multi-cropping within GS** (maintains more habitat diversity, reduces need for fertilisers, reduces risk if one crop fails). • **Local involvement in GS** (involvement of local people and small-scale farmers in GSs would improve livelihoods whilst reducing their dependence on unsustainable farming). • **Where possible, locate new GS near industrialisation and urbanisation hubs** (closer to labour, markets, social infrastructure, and reduces transport impacts).
General agriculture	• **Land degradation** (including bush encroachment) and biodiversity loss (eg because of overstocking, inappropriate use of fire, pesticide and poison use). • **Livelihood insecurity** (due to farming marginal land vulnerable to climate varibaility and change).	• **Human-wildlife conflict** (expanding farming areas encroach on wildlife ranges including the establishment of permanent farms adjacent to national parks).	• **Integrating livestock and wildlife management and production** (mixed farming is more productive, spreads risks and recues vulnerability to climate variability and change. GRN should encourage formation of freehold conservancies as well as continue supporting CBNRM). • **Farming and tourism** (mixed game and livestock farming enables income diversification)..

SEA priorities?

- NDP 5 – merged process
- Sector policy SEAs
  - Bulkwater masterplan
- Hub SEAs
  - Windhoek-Okahandja
  - Central Namib & coast
  - North-central
  - Benguela
- LUP SEAs
  - NE
  - NW

Thank you